

## Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 /080 W

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P R 151630Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1991

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1548

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RH, ZA, PINS

SUBJECT: MUSOREWA COMMENTS ON RHODESIAN CONSTITUTIONAL TALKS

REF: LUSAKA 1544

1. BISHOP MUSOREWA TOLD ME IN HALF-HOUR MEETING AUG 15 THAT HE NOT REPEAT NOT DISCOURAGED BY IAN SMITH'S LATEST PUBLIC STATEMENTS RE VICTORIA FALLS BRIDGE MEETING BECAUSE HE CONFIDENT ZIMBABWE WILL BE FREE. BAD ELEMENT, HE WENT ON, IS THAT ISSUE MAY NOT BE DECIDED PEACEFULLY AT VICTORIA FALLS BRIDGE MEETING AUG 25.

2. COMMENTING ON HIS LATEST FIVE-POINT STATEMENT REJECTING THE IDEA OF COMMITTEE SESSIONS IN RHODESIA, THE BISHOP ADMITTED IT WAS "RISKY" IN TERMS OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BUT IT WAS DELIBERATELY BRIEF AND POINTED SO THAT THE MAIN BODY OF THE ANC LIBERATION MOVEMENT WOULD BE GUIDED BY THESE FEW ESSENTIALS RATHER THAN CONFUSED WITH WHAT IAN SMITH HAD SAID. I ASKED THE BISHOP IF HE HAD NOT AGREED TO COMMITTEE SESSIONS IN RHODESIA. HE SAID HE HAD IN TERMS OF DRAFTING  
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SESSIONS BUT NOT NEGOTIATING SESSIONS AS SMITH HAD DEFINED

THEM FOR HIS OWN DOMESTIC POLITICAL PURPOSES. DESPITE CHONA'S DESCRIBING THE BISHOP AS DISCOURAGED AND IN NEED OF MORAL SUPPORT, I FOUND HIM QUITE SELF-POSSESSED AND CONFIDENT, BUT WILLING TO VOLUNTEER NOTHING, ALTHOUGH HE WAS RESPONSIVE BUT TERSELY TO MY QUESTIONS.

3. UNDERSTAND THAT FULL ANC DELEGATION FROM RHODESIA, WHICH WILL JOIN WITH ANC IN LUSAKA IN MEETING AUG 16, HAS SOME SERIOUS QUESTIONS IT WILL PUT TO BISHOP MUZOREWA ON HIS AGREEMENTS WITH CHONA AND CHONA'S SUBSEQUENT AGREEMENTS WITH SMITH ON CONTESTED ISSUE OF WHAT COMMITTEES WILL DO AND WHERE THEY WILL MEET FOLLOWING FORMAL INITIAL REOPENING OF TALKS AT VICTORIA FALLS BRIDGE.

4. I ASKED THE BISHOP IF HE FELT HIS BRIEF FIVE-POINT RESPONSE WAS SUFFICIENT INDICATION TO SMITH OF ANC REACTION TO HIS STATEMENTS IN PARLIAMENT AND ON RHODESIAN RADIO. BISHOP SEEMED TO FEEL IT WAS, FOR THE TIME BEING, BUT SAID HE INTENDED TO MAKE A MAJOR STATEMENT BETWEEN NOW AND AUG 21 WHEN HE DEPARTS LUSAKA FOR PREPARATORY DISCUSSIONS IN LIVINGSTONE.

5. COMMENT: BISHOP WAS CORDIAL AND FRIENDLY ENOUGH BUT IN HIS AGREEMENT TO SEE SENATOR CLARK IN LIVINGSTONE HE USED OCCASION TO GET IN MILDLY CRITICAL JAB AT USG FOR WANTING TO KEEP INFORMED ON RHODESIAN SITUATION WHILE APPARENTLY UNWILLING TO UNDERTAKE ANY INITIATIVE IN SUPPORT OF ANC NEGOTIATING EFFORTS OTHER THAN ADMINISTRATION POLICY TO REPEAL BYRD AMENDMENT AND SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA.

6. ON LEAVING BISHOP, I WISHED HIM EVERY SUCCESS IN HIS EFFORTS TOWARD NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT IN HOPES OF AVERTING ESCALATION OF ARMED STRUGGLE.  
WILKOWSKI

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, POLICIES, CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, LIBERATION FRONTS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975LUSAKA01548  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750284-0070  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 LUSAKA 1544  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 25 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <25 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2003 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MUSOREWA COMMENTS ON RHODESIAN CONSTITUTIONAL TALKS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINS, RH, ZA, (MUSOREWA, BISHOP), (SMITH, IAN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006